THE
DISSEMINATOR
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
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To Chief Librarians:
This electronic information sheet is being distributed to all Regional Librarians and members of the Automation Working Group.

Please distribute this to staff and boards. Thanks.

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T H E D I S S E M I N A T O R
1.6
March 4, 1994

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DEPT. OF EDUCATION STAFFING

The following appointments have been extended to May 1st 1994:

Wayne Doggett, Acting Executive Director, Policy Branch
Maryann Ricketts, Acting Director, Planning and Research, Policy Branch
Doug Nauss, Acting Executive Director, Finance and Operations Branch

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Staff recently had another go at refining our draft list of Goals and Objectives. Soon we will be sending our Goals to the Regional Libraries for

2007-05057/

comment.

FUNDING FORMULA REVIEW MEETING

A meeting was held on Friday, February 25th bringing together all Regional Librarians, Board Chairs and their financial officers to discuss the recommendations made in the Funding Formula Report. The discussion covered the principles of the report, and the building blocks of the formula. The Boards expressed concern that the amount of money available to libraries was not adequate and that the building blocks were not equitable. All concerns expressed at this meeting will be forwarded to the Minister. The next step in the process will start March 7th as consultations with regional library boards and municipal officials get under way. The schedule is as follows:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Feb. 25/94	12:30 - 2:30	Conference Room, NSPL
Mar. 7/94	7:00 pm	Cape Breton Regional Library
Mar. 8/94	6:30 pm	PAR Library Program Room
Mar. 9/94	4:00 pm	Amherst (Town Hall Board Room)
Mar. 10/94	7:00 pm	Regional Library HQ, Mulgrave
Mar. 14/94	1:30 pm	Western Counties R.L. Board
Mar. 15/94	6:00 pm	Bridgewater Town Council Chambers
Mar. 22/94	7:00 pm	Regional Library HQ, Truro
Mar. 23/94	7:00 pm	Dartmouth Regional Library, Helen Creighton Room Mar. 24/94 8:00pm Kentville Town Hall

INFORMATION HIGHWAY "ON RAMP"

Marion Pape, Bernie Hart (Director of EMS) and Donna Bourne-Tyson attended a workshop hosted by NGL Nordicity Group Ltd., the consultants hired to study and recommend an action plan for implementing the Nova Scotia information highway. The electronic highway concept is a high speed interconnected system of networks capable of carrying voice, text, data, graphics and video services to and from all Nova Scotians. The day-long session was for provincial government managers to provide input into both government and end-user information needs. The discussions covered hardware, software, telecommunications, and information requirements. A strong case was made for the inclusion of regional libraries, freenets and community colleges as a vital part of the information highway, both as a technological link, and as the logical place for the dissemination of all types of information. Marion Pape and Andrea John have met with the consultants on different occasions in the past to discuss the library's contribution to the information highway. Libraries are key information providers and need to be one of the "on ramps" for public access. What we had to say was interesting enough that education projects, including the Provincial Library's NcompasS network, have been identified for further analysis. The final report of the study is due March 7th.

WALK THIS WAY!

The final database walk on our UTLAS records began on Friday February 25. It will involve all records that have an RSN past a certain range, in order to pick all records not included in the initial database walk. Then the gap tape, including all records that have been added or changed since October 6, will then be cut. There will be a separate tape to pick up records in a special RSN range, that were entered as part of a recon project since September. The walk will take about two weeks. Then the tapes will be sent to multiLIS for conversion and loading. An authority tape will also

be cut by ISM at this time. If you would like more information about the process, contact Donna Bourne-Tyson.

THE ONES THAT WE KNOW ABOUT . . .

During the planning of the conversion of the database, there were a few ISM coding practices identified which multiLIS could not convert to our specifications. Some of these were due to inconsistent cataloguing practices over the years, and some were more technical difficulties. The resulting 'problem' records have been logged and printed in a report which is ready and waiting for clean up time. Here are some things that you may find strange in the database which will be corrected soon:

KIT records -- you may notice that nowhere in the
KIT record does it identify the record as a kit

$r's that were added to the 090 field in the UTLAS record to indicate the dewey number preferred by a region, are not reflected in the item record

Round brackets appear around some of the shelf numbers in the item records

A few other things we noticed and have brought to Sobeco's attention are:

- Some accents don't display very well in the database. This is a problem with the multiLIS software and hopefully will be cleared up.

- The number following the decimal in the dewey number is printing on the same line as the number preceding the decimal on the spine label. We are waiting to hear whether this can also be remedied.

Please contact Susan Barnes if you have any questions, or have made new discoveries that we

should know about!

APPEARING ON A TERMINAL NEAR YOU

The ILL scripts have been designed using WordPerfect macros, and the procedures are being written and tested. Soon there will be a new ILL system in place on the multiLIS terminals in each region, and after a trial period, we will be able to make the leap to the Internet-based ILL system! All of the best features of ENVOY have been preserved where possible, and if you prefer, you can copy and paste from databases instead of keying in information. Since we have ordered WordPerfect for Windows 6.0 for all regions, there will be a delay before the whole system can be assembled and demonstrated. We hope to be able to demonstrate it to the Automation Working Group members on March 25th during our next meeting.

AUTOMATION IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Feb 15/94 NSHPL collection barcoding specs. for addition of barcode number to item records; specs. for smart barcode labels

Feb 28/94 Dartmouth Regional Library generate tape from Dynix

Feb 28/94 Inter-library loan scripts and macros completed

Mar 15/94 Prepare ILL procedures for regions

Mar 11/94 Halifax City Regional Library generate tape from Dynix

Mar 30/94 Final acceptance testing of database

Mar 30/94 Training on new e-mail package and Internet at regions

Mar 30/94 Load linked authorities into database

Apr /94 Inter-library loan macros installed

Apr /94 NSHPL records processed for smart barcoding

Apr 30/94 Establish regular updating with file transfer from DRL

As everyone has probably noticed in the last shipment of books sent out,
there were no printouts included. A shelf card will now be sent for each
book in place of a printout.

Anyone with database "problems" recorded on the distributed forms are asked to start sending them in. We are in the process of creating a schedule for database cleanup and would like a rough idea of what more needs to be done. These can be sent to Joanne Irwin or Susan Barnes. Your contributions in helping us make NcompasS a database of quality is greatly appreciated.

Susan Barnes will be out of the office March 7-11. Lynne McCulley will be handling any problems in her absence. Lynne's e-mail address is "lmcculle" and her phone number is 424-2469.

DATA RESEARCH ASSOCIATES TO BUY MULTILIS

Sobeco Ernst and Young (SEY) announced on February 25, 1994 that Data Research Associates, Inc. has signed a Letter of Intent for the purchase of the library automation system and related assets of multiLIS, a division of Sobeco Ernst & Young, Inc., and of certain assets of multiLIS' distributors: multiLIS Corporation, Avec Technical Services, Inc.; Multicore Library Systems, Inc.; and multiLIS Europe S.A. A press release posted on the multiLIS listserv quotes: "SEY firmly believes that DRA, a leader in the library software industry, is well

positioned to continue developing multiLIS and maintain high quality technical support," said Jean-Louis Gauvin, President and Chief Operating Officer of Sobeco Ernst and Young.

The proposed assets to be purchased include multiLIS' fully integrated library automation software; all rights for the sales, licensing and distribution of multiLIS products worldwide; all rights and obligations under each of multiLIS' support agreements; and certain intellectual property rights.

Data Research, based in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, is a leading systems integrator, providing its own proprietary information services software, as well as third-party software and hardware, networking services and other related services to libraries and other information providers.

NSTN TRAINING

Training of regional library staff will begin this week with Cape Breton Regional Library, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library and Eastern Counties Regional Library. The other regions will be trained at a date yet to be announced. Stay tuned!

AUTHORITY CONTROL: "PEET, WILLIAM B." OR "PEET, BILL"?

As you know, the database walk has "flipped" many forms of names in NcompasS. Sometimes the change necessitates updating the Interfile/Shelf list and changing the spine labels on the books so that they match the
new main entry while others require an adjustment to just the Interfile/Shelf list.

Unfortunately, variant forms of names still managed to slip through the database walk and consequently you will continue to find inconsistencies. This has occurred when the variant form of the name was not

included as a "see from" (or x reference) in the walk's name authority file. As you discover variations in the names file you should notify Joanne Irwin (e-mail jirwin). She will consolidate the remaining variant forms manually and alert the automation contacts in the regions. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and vigilance! (By the way, the correct answer is: "Peet, Bill".)

USER SERVICES' FIRST CD ON ORDER

User Services' staff have selected "Magazine Article Summaries Full Text Elite" as the first CD to be purchased and used in reference work. It is currently on order and we look forward to putting it to great use answering reference questions from the regions. MAS Full Text Elite offers the full text of articles from 90 popular magazine titles. In addition, it provides indexing and abstracts for approximately 400 magazines as far back as 1984. User Services receives subject requests on a wide variety of topics. It is for this reason that we felt confident this CD would be an excellent tool.

STATISTICS PUBLICATION IN THE WORKS

Frank Oram recently distributed the questionnaire to collect data for the 1992-93 edition of "Regional Library Statistics". Please direct any comments you have to Frank or Andrea John.

LIBRARY BOOK RATE

In the past few weeks, each Chief was asked to comment on the three scenarios developed by the National Library to replace the current Library Book Rate program which will expire in 1996. The comments were remarkably consistent, with most Chiefs preferring the second scenario - an enhanced library rate program based on the present program. The most important change was that the definition of library materials had to be expanded to include photocopies, videos, tapes, disks, etc. which are

not currently eligible for the Library Rate.

MBS UPDATE

A conference call was held with the provincial librarians of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland to discuss alternatives and a model for Nova Scotia to provide MBS titles to the Atlantic region. Discussions are still under way. National Library will host a meeting on the future of MBS on March 15.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The 1994 Summer Reading Program is off to a whale of a start! All confirmation orders for the posters have been sent out to the Regions and the anticipated shipping date is the week of March 7. The sweatshirt and t-shirt information should be available soon.

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That's it for this issue. Stay tuned . . . .

If you have any questions or comments about the activities mentioned, please contact the people involved.

We encourage readers to comment on items found in THE DISSEMINATOR and/or make suggestions about content. These comments should be directed to Sue Dirani or Donna Bourne-Tyson.

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